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REETH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

May, 1955.

OFFICIALS:-

Wm. C. Speirs, M.B., Ch.B., Medical Officer of Health
J. V. Metcalfe, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Sanitary Inspector

Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Report for the year 1954.

The Statistics are based on a population of 2,020 persons. This is a slight increase on last year's figures.

The area of the District is 74,538 acres or 116 square miles. The density of the population is therefore 17.41 to each square mile.

The number of inhabited houses on the 31st December, 1954, was 894 and a penny rate yields £33.10s.3½d.

The main industry of the District is agriculture.

VITAL STATISTICS

	M	F	Total	Rate per 1,000 of population	Rate per 1,000 total Births
Live Births	11	8	19	9.4	
Legitimate	10	8	18		
Illegitimate	1	-	1		
Still Births	-	-	-	-	-
Death under 1 year	1	-	1		52.6
Deaths	18	15	33	16.34	-
Deaths under 4 weeks	1	2	3		157.81

There were no deaths from sepsis or puerperal causes.

Deaths from Measles	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough	Nil
Death from Chicken Pox	1
Deaths from Cancer	5

The nursing is carried out by our resident nurse at Reeth, but Hurst and Marrick are worked by nurses resident in Richmond, Yorks. The great majority of confinements are now sent to Darlington or Northallerton. A few are delivered in their own homes by the nurse, and the local medical practitioners. Immunisation is done by the local doctors, or at the monthly clinic at Reeth. Vaccinations are done by the local practitioners. Ambulance and car cases for hospital are carried out by the Depot at Hill House, Richmond.

SUMMARY OF DEATHS

	M	F	Total
Specific Disease	-	1	1
Malignant Disease	3	2	5
Vascular Disease	4	5	9
Coronary Disease	2	2	4
Other Heart Disease	3	2	5
Circulatory Disease	1	1	2
Pneumonia	-	1	1
Bronchitis	1	-	1
Ulcer of Stomach	1	-	1
Other Disease	2	1	3
Misadventure	1	-	1
	18	15	33

PARTIALLY BLIND PERSONS

Males

Retinitis Pigmentosa	1
Blind from Birth	1
Blind from Accident	1

Females

Diabetic Cataract	1
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Water Supplies

The various suggested schemes have not yet materialised as the Council cannot see their way to commence these on the aid offered by the Ministry.

Housing

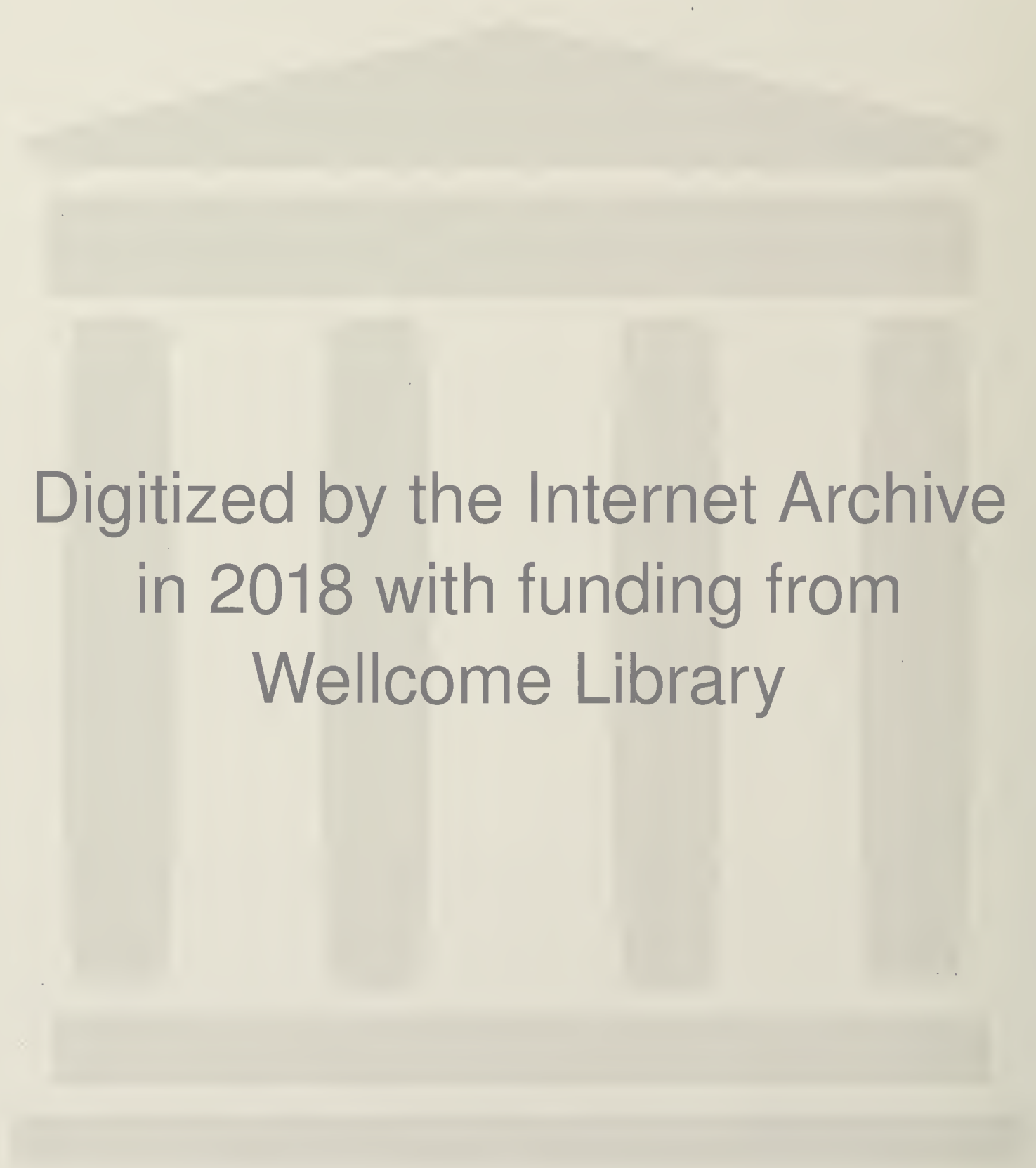
The twelve houses built by the Council are fully occupied, and it is proposed to erect two more at Reeth and two at Gunnerside.

Schools

The water supplies to the schools still show much contamination with faecal coli when samples are taken after a space from contamination of the water at the gathering grounds.

Bacillus Abortus

One case of Undulant Fever in an adult was sent to hospital. Investigation proved negative; it might have been contracted outside the district.



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NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

	M	F	Total
Small Pox	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Enteric Fever	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-
Pneumonia	2	1	3
Encephalitis	-	1	1
Erysipelas	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-
Measles	2	3	5
Whooping Cough	9	2	11
Poliomyelitis	3	-	3

TUBERCULOSIS

Age	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Total
	M	F	M	F	
0-1	-	-	-	-	-
1-5	-	-	-	-	-
5-15	-	-	-	-	-
15-25	1	-	-	-	1
25 +	1	-	-	-	-
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I remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. C. SPEIRS.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT, 1954

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLIES

Although the question of improving existing supplies throughout the area has been constantly before the Council, nothing has yet been carried out. The Council, after finally being informed as to the Grants to be made available by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government and the North Riding County Council towards the cost of the proposed Regional Water Supply Scheme, were of the opinion that the balance to be paid out of rates would be too great a burden.

In the meantime, during dry periods, shortages are experienced at Keld, Marrick, Healaugh and Reeth, and to a lesser extent at Gunnerside, Thwaite and Low Row.

Bacteriological examinations of the various supplies show that the water being supplied for domestic use is to be regarded with suspicion owing to faecal contamination.

During the year, a separate scheme for the village of Marrick was prepared, the source of supply being the Stelling Springs. The scheme was submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, who informed the Council that the scheme would be considered along with complete proposals satisfying the needs of the whole district.

SEWERAGE

Again it has to be reported that no new or improved schemes of sewerage have been undertaken, as these are consequent on improved schemes of water supply.

Routine analysis of the effluents from disposal works are classed as "Bad".

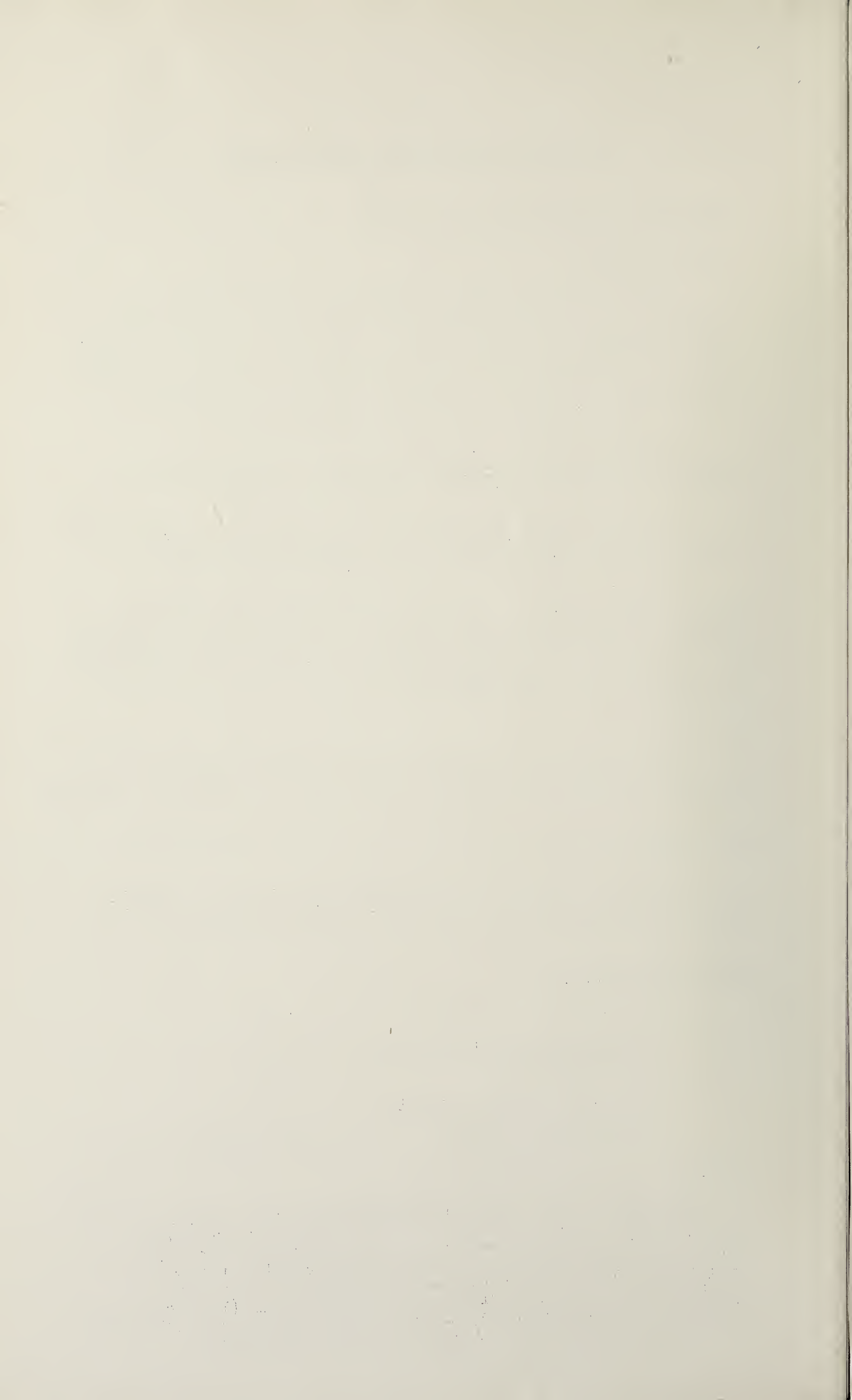
At Marrick household waste water runs in an open ditch, at Thwaite waste water discharges without treatment into the Beck, and the banks have been used for depositing the contents of dry and chemical closets.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

Conversions to W.C.'s	15
Additional W.C.'s to old property	5
Private sewage disposal	6
New drains tested	460 yards

HOUSING

During the year, detailed inspections have been increased, including the re-inspection of houses previously surveyed. In the latter respect a number of the houses have been placed in different categories, to comply with current Housing legislation. In particular, houses in Class V as unfit for habitation are now being placed in the Class III (IV) as suitable for reconstruction, improvement and repair, with the aid of Improvement Grants under the 1949 Housing Act.



Improvements to Houses (without Grant Aid)

New Bathrooms	14
New W.C.'s	6
Domestic Hot Water	21
Internal piped supplies	12
Improved kitchens and sculleries	8
Larder accomodation	7
Additional bedrooms	4

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The service has been maintained throughout the year, and it is pleasing to report that the men employed on this service are carrying out their duties efficiently, and are to be congratulated on the tidiness of the tips. This latter task is rendered more difficult by householders depositing loose paper in the bins. The collection vehicle is kept well serviced by the driver.

Rodent control measures have been carried out as a routine to keep the tips clear.

FOOD INSPECTION AND FOOD HYGIENE

Meat Inspection

The inspection of all cattle, sheep and pigs slaughtered in the area has with de-control of slaughtering again been undertaken. Two premises have been licensed for this purpose, and slaughtering has been carried out in a proper and humane manner. Inspections are usually undertaken in the evening or before 8.0 a.m.

Details up to 31st December, 1954

Cattle	12 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons
Sheep	11 $\frac{1}{4}$ tons
Pigs	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons

Condemned

1 - Beef Carcase. Generalised Tuberculosis	576 lbs.
Offal	120 lbs.
Other Offal (Cirrhossis, Hydatid Cysts, Local Tubercular Infections)	96 lbs.

Other Foods

No food in retail shops was found to be unfit for consumption.

A good standard of cleanliness in retail food shops continues to be maintained.

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With regard to licensed premises, these on the whole have been run with proper attention to cleanliness. One exception was due to the licensee having no real interest in the job, repeated visits only resulted in feeble efforts to maintain a standard of cleanliness, and it was necessary to stop the service of meals. Intending purchasers of country pubs should realise that they are taking on a lot of hard work, not a life of ease as is sometimes imagined.

ICE CREAM MANUFACTURE AND SALE

The two premises at Reeth registered for the manufacture of Ice Cream are kept scrupulously clean.

Retailers of Ice Cream, all have for sale pre-packed ices.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT

<u>Registered Premises</u>		<u>Inspections</u>
Cooked Meats	4	88
Bakehouses	7	53
Ice Cream Manufacture	2	12
Pre-packed Ice Cream	12	25

SCHOOLS

The water supplies to schools in the area are supplied from Council mains, other than at Reeth and Arkengarthdale. The former supply of ten shows heavy bacteriological contamination by faecal coli, being subject to surface pollution.

The preparation of meals at the schools have been carried out in a proper manner.

Toilet accommodation has been maintained in a clean and orderly manner.

RODENT CONTROL

The number of complaints of infestation at private properties has reduced, and then, only minor infestations have been dealt with.

On Council Refuse Tips and Sewage Works, regular treatments have prevented any major infestations.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

The conveniences at Reeth and Low Row are now regularly cleansed by the refuse collectors.

Acts of vandalism continue to occur.

FACTORIES

Routine inspections of the seven premises on the register continue to be carried out.

SHOPS ACT

Routine inspections of the retail shops in the area gave no cause for complaint.

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS

There has been no increase in the number of these structures during the year. The few individual ones in the area are conducted in a proper manner.

NUISANCES

Inspections for nuisances only	89
Nuisances found	34
Number needing abatement	14
Number abated during the year	14
Informal notices served	6
Informal notices complied with	6
Statutory notices	Nil

SANITARY INSPECTIONS

Complaints investigated	27
Drainage work in progress	168
Drains tested	52
Bakeries	53
Catering establishments	65
Licensed premises	41
Ice cream sale shops	38
Rodent control (private properties)	63
Rodent control (Council undertakings)	114
Private water supplies	49
Council water undertakings	89
Private sewage disposal	34
Council sewerage	47
Refuse tips	32
Poultry keepers and piggeries	28
Dairies	16
Housing improvement works in progress	134
Miscellaneous	84

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INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR

1.	(a)	Total number of houses inspected during the year for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	265
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose...	320
2.	(a)	Number of houses (included in sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	Nil
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ..	Nil
3.		Number of houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for habitation	4
4.		Number of houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for habitation	294
2.		<u>Remedy of defects without service of Formal Notice</u>	
		Number of houses made fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers	47
3.		<u>Action under Statutory Powers during the year</u>	
	(a)	<u>Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936</u>	
	1.	Number of houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
	2.	Number of houses which were rendered fit after the service of formal notice	Nil
	(a)	By owners	Nil
	(b)	By local authority in default of owners	Nil
	(b)	<u>Proceedings under the Public Health Act</u>	
	1.	Number of houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	Nil
	2.	Number of houses which were rendered fit after the service of formal notices	Nil
	(a)	By owners	Nil
	(b)	By local authority in default of owners	Nil
	(c)	<u>Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936</u>	
	1.	Number of houses in respect of which demolition orders were made	Nil
	2.	Number of houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders	Nil

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936

1. Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined Nil
2. Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room being made fit Nil

4. Housing Act, 1936. Part IV - Overcrowding

No overcrowding in the area.

No action during the year.

J. V. METCALFE,

Sanitary Inspector.

1. The first part of the paper is devoted to a general discussion of the problem.

2. The second part is devoted to a detailed study of the case of a single particle.

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